



Attorney Docket No.9052-98

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Bain et al.

Group Art Unit: 1711

Serial No.: 09/980,219

Examiner: Morton Foelak

Filed: April 18, 2002

For: ADHESIVE COMPOSITION COMPRISING THERMOEXPANDABLE
MICROCAPSULES

November 21, 2002

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action of August 22, 2002, the initial period for response to which is set to expire on November 22, 2002.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 22, 2002, has been received and reviewed. Claims 1-31 and 24-35 are pending in this application. Claims 22-23 and 26-31 have been withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the arguments below.

I. Elections/Restrictions

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the restriction requirement for claims 23-23 and 26-28 as these claims do not recite any subject matter that should be divided from the composition claims 1-21. Claims 22 and 23 disclose that the expandable microcapsules, detailed in claims 1-21, can be dispersed (mixed) in an adhesive system for a single type (claim 22) or for multifunctional types (claim 23). Further, claims 26 and 27 disclose the microcapsules in both normal primer and adhesives. Additionally, claim 28 describes that some of the encapsulated microcapsules can be mixed in an adhesive to improve the bonding, particularly those containing curing agents as recited in claim 9. Examination of these claims would not